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Remarks

In response to the Restriction Requirement, the Applicant elects the invention of Group I (Claims 1-18) for initial prosecution. The election is made without traverse. The Applicant agrees that the tire of claims 19-20 is independent and distinct – and thus independently patentable – of the method recited in claims 1-18. Claims 19-20 have thus been canceled from this application subject to Applicant's right to file a divisional application.

The Applicant has added new claims 21 and 22 and respectfully request these claims to be examined. Claims 21 and 22 are directed to the elected method of designing a tire noise pitch sequence.

In view of the foregoing, the Applicant respectfully requests consideration of the claims and most earnestly solicits the issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance for the claims.

Please call the undersigned attorney if any issues remain after this amendment.



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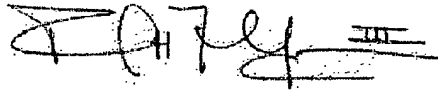
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I hereby certify that this correspondence (Response to Restriction Requirement
in application serial no. 10/698,318 filed 10-31-2003) is being transmitted by
facsimile to 571-273-8300 on January 19, 2007.



Fred H. Zollinger III, Reg. No. 39,438